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PROVINCE OF
ALBERTA
CANADA

"LAND FOR LIVING"

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Alberta contains the greatest variety of geographical features of any Canadian province, ranging from the sweeping flatlands of the prairies to the breathtaking heights of the mountains.



The rolling prairie and the foothills of the Rocky Mountains are ideal grazing grounds for great herds of cattle.

GEOGRAPHIC FEATURES

From the towering, majestic peaks of the Canadian Rockies, which reach heights of over 12,000 feet above sea level, to the Red Deer River Valley badlands, cut to a depth of nearly 400 feet below the surrounding prairie, Alberta contains the greatest variety of geographical features of any Canadian province.

A giant plateau, 2,200 feet above sea level, the province stretches 756 miles from north to south, and from 182 to 404 miles east and west. Of this total area of 255,285 square miles, 248,000 square miles are land, the remainder fresh water.

Excluding the mountainous south-west corner of the province, Alberta may be divided roughly into three general areas. From the international border to a point approximately 200 miles north, the land is a treeless, rolling prairie, which was once covered naturally with short grass. It is now a productive agricultural area, thanks to extensive irrigation.

The central division is known as the "Parklands". A succession of wide ridges and broad valleys, with a large number of lakes and streams and numerous belts of timber give the landscape the pleasing appearance from which it derives its name.

The third area takes in the whole northern half of the Province. This is a region of great lakes, rivers and forests broken by tracts of open prairie like the Grande Prairie district and the wide, sweeping terraces of the Peace River Valley.



Calgary, Alberta's second largest city in population, home of 310,000 people, is Canada's largest city in area, covering 154 square miles.

A novel geographical feature of the province is the Columbia Ice Field, which lies astride the Alberta - British Columbia border. Melting waters from the ice field flow north to the Arctic Ocean, west to the Pacific Ocean, and east to Hudson's Bay.

Alberta averages 2,000 to 2,200 hours of bright sunshine annually, summer and winter, which makes it the sunniest province in Canada. Over a ten year period, the average hours of bright sunshine per annum in Calgary was 2,200, as compared to Victoria, B.C., 2,093; Vancouver, B.C., 1,784; Winnipeg, Manitoba, 2,126; Toronto, Ontario, 2,047; Montreal, Quebec, 1,181; and Halifax, Nova Scotia, 1,876.

In the semi-arid southern prairie grasslands, summers are hot and winters comparatively mild. The parklands receive more precipitation and winters are somewhat colder than in the south. The northern forests have summers which are normally warm for their latitude, but winters are long and intensely cold.

The July mean daily temperature in Calgary over a period of 30 years was a maximum of 75, a minimum of 49. For the same period, the maximum in Edmonton was 75, the minimum 51. The January mean daily temperature over 30 years in Edmonton was a maximum of 17, a minimum of -1. In Calgary, the maximum was 26, the minimum 5. Pleasantly warm temperatures and low humidity make summer days throughout Alberta extremely comfortable, while generally clear skies bring coolness to summer nights.

Over most of the province, about 50 per cent of the year's precipitation normally falls as rain in the April to July period. About one quarter of the annual precipitation falls as snow, which usually appears in late October and disappears in early April. The average annual snowfall is only about half that experienced in the populated parts of Quebec, Ontario, the Maritime Provinces and the upland sections of British Columbia.

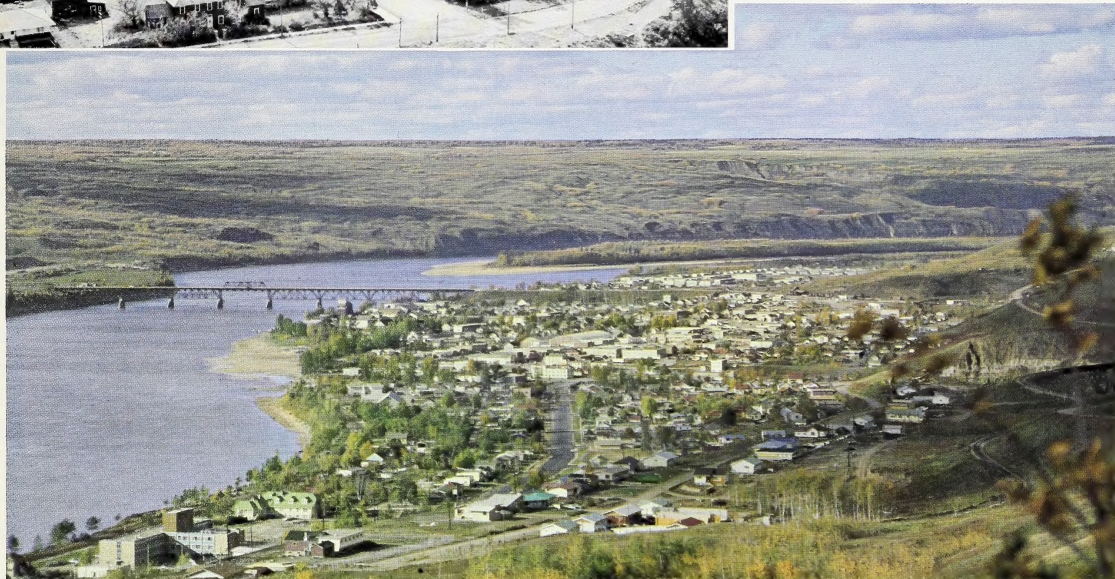


The City of Red Deer is the centre of a rich agricultural area which also contains more than 500 producing oil wells.



Historic Fort Macleod, built on the site of the original North-West Mounted Police post in the west, is typical of Alberta's prairie towns.

Nestled picturesquely at the junction of two of Alberta's mighty northern rivers, the Smoky and the Peace, Peace River Town is the centre of the province's most northerly agricultural section.



Temperatures in winter can vary considerably, not only between the north and the south, but between comparatively near-by places. Long periods of low temperatures are often interrupted in the south and north-west sections of the province by the Chinook, a warm westerly wind originating over the Japanese current of the Pacific, which can raise temperatures from bitter cold to well over freezing in a scant few hours.

Ten cities, located effectively throughout the province, are the keystones on which the economic and social systems are built. There are 89 towns of varying sizes and 167 villages. Most communities are fully modern, with water and sewer systems, many with paved streets, and with fine housing and shopping facilities.

The majority of Alberta residents are urban dwellers, and the greatest proportion of these live in the ten cities. The largest city and provincial capital is Edmonton, with a population of 372,000.

Second is Calgary, Canada's largest city in area with 154 square miles, and home of 310,000 people. Then comes Lethbridge, with 36,700; Medicine Hat, 25,300; Red Deer, 24,400; Grande Prairie, 10,400; Camrose, 7,700; Wetaskiwin, 5,600; Drumheller, 3,100; and Lloydminster, which is divided by the Alberta-Saskatchewan boundary, with 3,000 residents on the Alberta side.

Pleasant, attractive residential areas and modern, efficient business sections offer a combination of living comfort, shopping convenience and up-to-date business facilities in each city. The continuing expansion of these centres of population is a mark of the progress of the province. In the larger cities, the skyline is undergoing continual change, as increasing numbers of high-rise business blocks and apartment buildings accommodate the steady influx of population and commerce.

The remainder of Alberta's urban and rural non-farm population lives in the towns and villages.

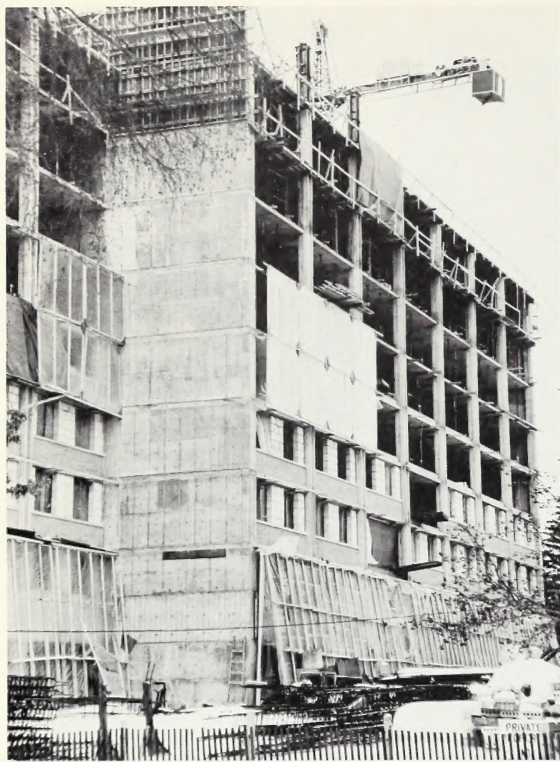
HISTORY

The first pages of Alberta's history are written in the badlands area of the Red Deer River Valley, where the discovery of fossilized remains proves that the great dinosaurs once roamed there. Millions of years later, Indian hunters populated the territory, with the Blackfoot nation the most powerful tribe on the northern plains.

The first white man to visit what is now the Province of Alberta was Anthony Henday, an employee of the Hudson's Bay Company, who attempted to entice the Indians east to trade their furs at the Company's coastal posts. The Indians' disinterest in such a plan eventually resulted in the establishment of posts along the great rivers by both the Hudson's Bay and North West Companies. In 1778, Peter Pond established a wintering post for the North Westers near what is now Fort Chipewyan, and, in the 1790's, both companies built forts on the North Saskatchewan River.

The bitter rivalry between the North Westers and the Hudson's Bay Company ended in 1821, with the amalgamation under the name of the Hudson's Bay Company, which ruled the west until 1869, when Rupert's Land, the area now made up of Alberta, Saskatchewan and adjacent lands, was sold to the Canadian government for \$1,350,000.

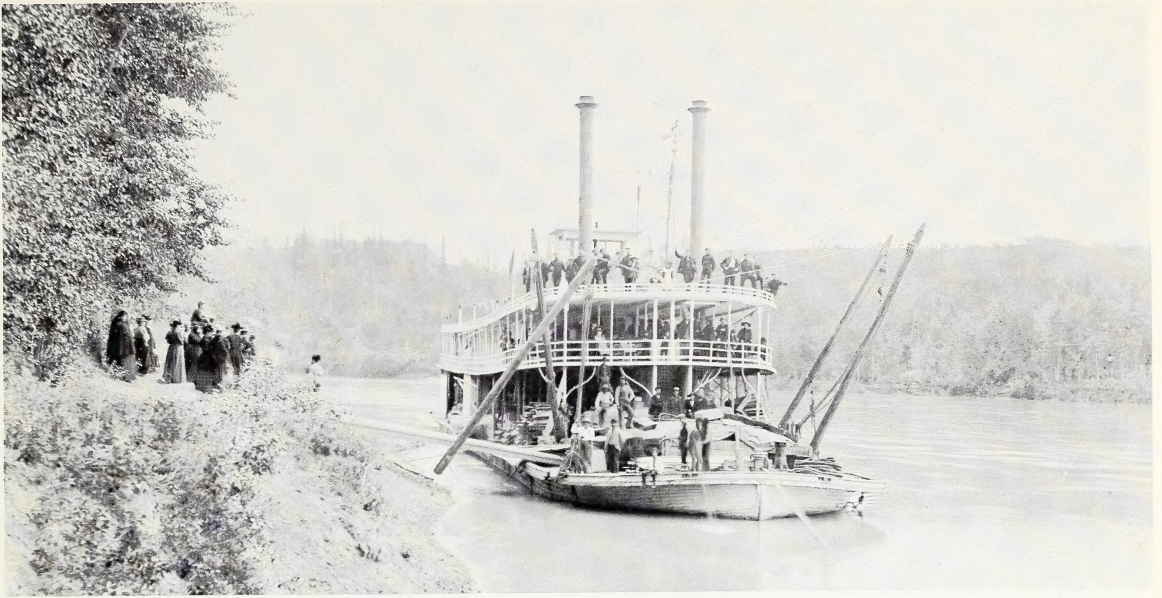
Edmonton is Alberta's capital, a modern, progressive city located on the banks of the North Saskatchewan River. It is the province's largest centre of population, with 372,000 residents.



The steady influx of population and commerce to Alberta's cities is resulting in the construction of numerous high-rise apartment buildings and business blocks.

These vary widely in size, surroundings and economic structure. Industry provides the basic support for many towns, such as Fort Saskatchewan, site of the Sherritt Gordon Nickel Refinery, The Dow Chemical Plant and other major industries. Others are centres of trade and administration for rural areas.





River transportation played an important part in the development of the west. The Hudson's Bay Company's steamer "North-West" was one of the sternwheelers which plied the North and South Saskatchewan Rivers before the turn of the century.

The fur traders were followed into the new territory by the missionaries, beginning in 1840 with the arrival of Rev. Robert Terrill Rundle, a Methodist missionary, at Fort Edmonton. Two years later, Father Jean Thibault, the first Roman Catholic missionary, came to Alberta, to be followed by men whose names have become part of the history of the west: Rev. George McDougall and his son, Rev. John McDougall, Father Albert Lacombe, Father Emile Grouard, Rev. Thomas Woolsey, Father Emile Legal, Rev. John MacLean and Bishop Vital Grandin.

The famous North-West Mounted Police set out from Manitoba in the summer of 1874, to suppress the illegal trade which developed when the Canadian west became open territory, following the sale of Rupert's Land to the government. Whiskey traders from the United States had moved into Southern Alberta, and set up a series of illegal trading forts, including Whoop-up, Kipp, Slideout and Standoff. With the arrival of the scarlet-coated N.W.M.P., the traders found it advisable to return to Montana or become law-abiding citizens.

The North-West Mounted Police also figured prominently in the signing of treaties providing for the future livelihood of the Indians of the area. The

first of these was with the Crees and Wood Stoney in 1876. The famous Treaty Seven was signed the following year with the Blood, Peigan, North Blackfoot, Sarcee and Stoney Indians. Northern Alberta tribes were the last to sign, accepting Treaty Eight in 1899.



Rustic highway signs remind travellers of past history in Alberta, while cairns often mark the actual locations of events that helped to shape the province's future.

River transportation played an important part in the development of the west. As early as 1874, sternwheeled steamboats on the North and South Saskatchewan Rivers carried passengers and cargo to supply trading posts and settlements. In 1885, they proved their military worth by transporting troops and supplies up and down the river during the Riel Rebellion. That same year, the Canadian Pacific Railway was completed. The following year, the C.P.R. began to give the river boats serious competition, and shortly thereafter forced them off the river altogether.

The Trans-Canada line of the Canadian Pacific reached Alberta in 1883, and implemented greatly

the rush for homesteads in the territory. This rush reached its peak a decade later with the construction of the Calgary and Edmonton Railway, connecting with the Trans-Canada line. Thousands of farmers from eastern Canada, the United States and Europe began to arrive to establish the important agricultural economy of the province.

By the turn of the century, the population in what is now Alberta had increased to such an extent that the area could no longer be efficiently administered from the territorial capital at Regina. In February, 1905, the Autonomy Bill was introduced into the House of Commons, and Alberta was inaugurated as a province on September 1 of that year.



The competitions of cowboy skills which thrill thousands of spectators every year at the Calgary Stampede had their origins in the day-to-day work of the cattle ranch of the early days. The calf roping event of today bears a great resemblance to the calf branding of yesterday.





The golden glow of a prairie sunset provides the perfect background for a battery of combines as they harvest Alberta's agricultural riches.



Wheat forms the most extensive portion of the more than 150,000,000 bushels of grain produced each year in Alberta for local and world markets.

AGRICULTURE

The first attempt at agriculture in Alberta was in 1779 when Peter Pond, the first white man to live in the province and cultivate the soil, planted a small garden near Lake Athabasca. Many years later, agricultural development was given its start by the Oblate Priests in missions at Lac la Biche, Lac Ste. Anne and St. Albert.

Father Albert Lacombe made particularly important contributions to the progress of agriculture in the province by introducing the plough to the Metis and the Indians. In the Peace River District, Rev. J. Gough Brick, an Anglican missionary, taught the Metis how to grow grain and vegetables.

Today, there are more than 47 million acres of occupied farm lands in Alberta, of which about 25 million acres are improved and utilized. In addition, it is estimated that there are another 21 million acres which could be utilized for agricultural purposes. A large proportion of the usable land is in the

Peace River district of the province, where sizeable tracts are open for homesteading.

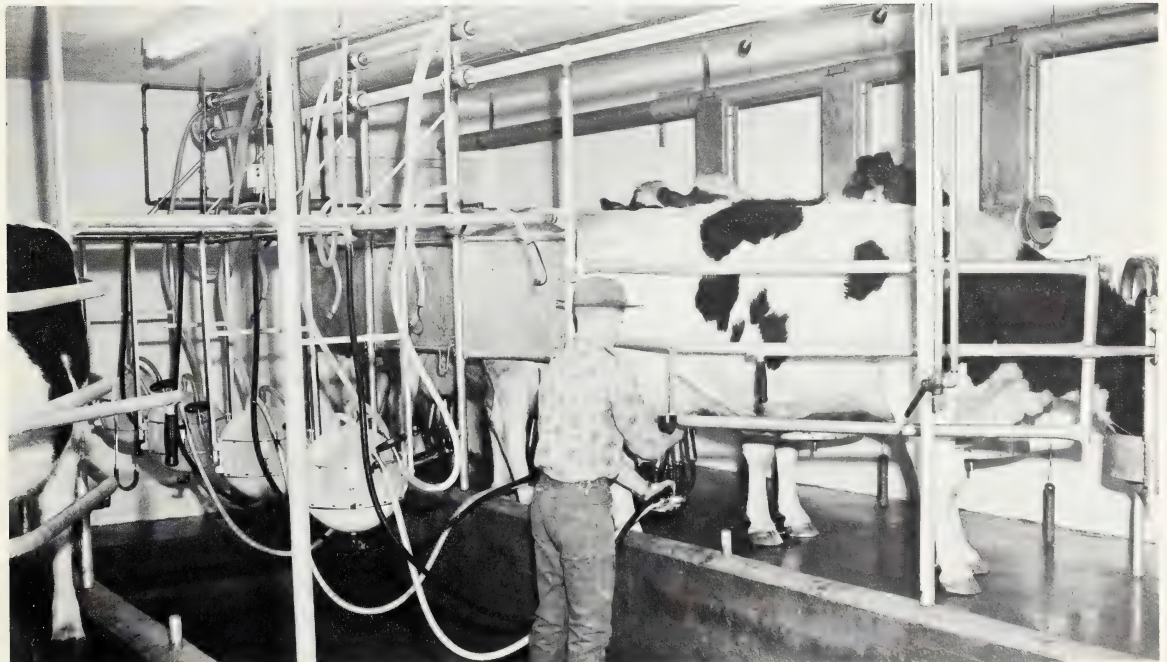
Alberta is divided into six soil zones, with the brown, dark brown, thin black and black regions covering most of the southern half of the province and the dark grey, dark grey wooded and grey wooded zones located in the northern section. Over the years, various types of crops have been developed as specially suited to each area. The high yield of crops in most sections is due to a fortuitous combination of good climatic conditions and soil types.

Ever since the first wheat was grown at the Lac la Biche mission in 1855, grain has been the most extensive crop in almost all areas. Each year, over 150,000,000 bushels of wheat, oats, barley and rye are produced for Canadian and world markets. The high quality of these grains has been proven time and time again by the consistent awarding of world championships to Alberta entries in international competitions, starting with a sample of wheat from Fort Chipewyan, which won at the



Herds of Aberdeen Angus, Herefords and Shorthorns are raised for market on the great ranches located in the foothills and southern portions of the province.

Modern facilities and methods of dairy farming such as milking parlours, pipeline milking and bulk milk tanks have resulted in more milk from fewer cows, adding greatly to the value of Alberta's agricultural resources.



Centennial Exposition in Philadelphia in 1873. Presently wheat is responsible for the greatest proportion of cash income from grain, with barley second, oats third and rye fourth.

Extensive irrigation has turned large areas of southern Alberta, formerly a semi-arid region, into rich, productive land. Fifteen major irrigation projects make more than 900 thousand acres virtually independent of rainfall and, eventually, another 55,000 acres are expected to be added to the irrigated areas. Here, sugar beets are one of the most important crops, providing raw materials for sugar refining, and for a growing livestock feed industry. Vegetable crops are assuming increasing importance in the irrigated areas as well, providing potatoes, corn, peas, carrots, onions and beans for immediate consumption and for canning and freezing. Oil-seed bearing crops, including safflower, sunflower and rape-seed are becoming more and more common in this area as well.

Important though field crops are to the province, it is no less noted for livestock production. The foothills and southern regions are the locations of great ranches where herds of Aberdeen Angus, Herefords and Shorthorns are raised for market. From the over 3,000,000 head of cattle in the province, over 800,000 are shipped to packing plants and stockyards each year.

During the past few years, the marketing of pigs has reached an annual average total of one and three-quarter million animals, placing Alberta second

only to Ontario in Canadian pig production. Yorkshire, Lacombe, Landrace, Tamworth and Berkshire are the breeds raised in the province, mostly in the central and Peace River sections where general livestock production is common.

The Alberta sheep industry is roughly divided into range flocks, basically of the Rambouillet breeding to maintain high wool quality; and farm flocks of Suffolk, Hampshire, North Country Cheviot, Corriedales, Romnelets and Columbias. Almost 200,000 sheep and lambs are marketed annually.

There are over 300,000 head of milch cows throughout Alberta, with the main areas for milk production in the regions of Calgary and Edmonton, and in the northern part of the province. Production of milk is adding an ever-increasing amount to the value of the agricultural resources. Modern, efficient methods of farming have resulted in more milk from fewer cows and many farms are now equipped with such up-to-date facilities as milking parlours, pipeline milking and bulk milk tanks.

Many farmers in Alberta are now specializing in poultry and the production of eggs, chicken broilers and turkey broilers. The production of honey as a cash crop is also becoming more common.

Sugar beets are one of the most important crops in the irrigated area, providing raw materials for sugar refining and for a growing livestock feed industry.

Up until the 1940's, agriculture contributed more than 50 percent of the net value of production in Alberta. While it has not declined in absolute terms, the vigorous growth of the manufacturing, mining and construction industries has reduced its comparative contribution to under 25 percent of the provincial total. However, the importance of agriculture to the economy of the province is vividly illustrated in the fact that one out of every four or five Albertans is engaged in some sort of agricultural activity.



Extensive irrigation has made more than 900,000 acres in southern Alberta virtually independent of rainfall, and another 55,000 acres are expected to be added soon.

FORESTRY

“Green gold” is the way one industrialist described Alberta’s forests and the rich stands of timber in the province have borne out his description by supplying a forest products industry that each year adds millions of dollars to the provincial economy.

Over two-thirds of Alberta is covered by forests, including almost 41 million acres of productive forest lands, concentrated along the foothills of the Canadian Rockies and in the north-west section of the province. It is computed that these 41 million acres contain a merchantable volume of better than 54 million cubic feet of wood. The coniferous growth in the area consists of white and black spruce, balsam fir, and jack and lodgepole pine, which make up 55 per cent of the total volume; while the remaining 45 per cent is in deciduous growth of poplar, aspen and white birch. White spruce is the most important commercial specie, followed by pine and poplar.

Disposition of crown lands for forestry production is accomplished by public competition in the form of tender or auction bids, and by timber management licenses. Special agreements may be made allowing exclusive use of lands in cases of large pulp and paper or plywood operations.

To maintain Alberta’s fast-growing forest products industry without depleting the basic resources,



When full, the woodyard of North Western Pulp and Power Limited at Hinton holds 300,000 cords of pulpwood logs, worth about \$5,000,000. The mill produces high-quality Kraft pulp for the manufacturing of paper products which require a strong, clean, bright pulp.

Alberta's 41 million acres of productive forest lands contain a merchantable volume of better than 54 million cubic feet of wood.



most logging is done on a sustained yield basis, ensuring a perpetual supply of timber by taking no more than the amount equalling the annual growth in the area. By leaving strips or blocks of parent trees adjacent to cut-over areas and by proper seed bed preparation, natural propagation is used to re-seed cut-over sections. This is often maintained on a one-hundred year basis, providing a new crop for harvesting one hundred years after the first crop has been cut.

The largest proportion of timber cut in Alberta is used by the lumber industry, but the trend is toward greater diversification in the use of forest resources. Fence post and pole production is increasing; the suitability of Alberta coniferous growth for pulpwood is resulting in an expansion in the pulp and paper industry; and the use and manufacture of plywood in the province is increasing.

The present overall forestry operations in the province provide employment for between 8,000 and 9,000 persons, including those working in the woods, in saw mills, pulp and paper and plywood operations.

Forest protection and conservation are very much the concern of the provincial government which maintains several programs to assure a plentiful supply of timber for years to come. Reforestation processes are carried out each year to ensure future growth. Beds are prepared by scarifying with bulldozers. Some are left for natural seeding, but the majority of the beds are planted with seed which is harvested each year, treated, and held in cold storage until needed. The Provincial Agricultural Tree Nursery near Edmonton uses a portion of the harvest to raise three year old seedlings for planting where seeding is not possible.

The Alberta Government also maintains a Forestry Training School at Hinton, where forest protection and conservation are taught to forest officers, lookout tower men and others concerned. Members of the general public selected by forestry personnel as key fire fighters receive training and certification as "Fire Bosses". In addition, Junior Forest Warden clubs teach young forestry enthusiasts the need for and the proper methods and procedures of conservation. Local projects of these clubs include stream reclamation, reforestation and tree thinning.



The use and manufacturing of plywood in Alberta is increasing steadily . . .



although the greatest proportion of timber cut in the province is still used by the lumber industry . . .



in keeping pace with the ever-increasing demands of expanding construction.

FISH & FURS

Summer and winter, the cold waters of Alberta's northern lakes provide a bountiful harvest for commercial fishermen. Alberta whitefish and lake trout constitute the major portion of the province's output and are considered culinary delicacies in many parts of the continent. Pike, pickerel and perch are also caught in commercial quantities and shipped to distant points, including Chicago and New York.

Furs sold at auction in Edmonton come from two sources. Fur farms throughout Alberta provide such luxurious favorites as ranch mink, chinchilla, marten and fisher pelts; while the traplines of the wilderness bring in wild mink, marten, beaver, otter and ermine. Wild muskrat, fox, lynx, rabbit and wolf are also caught in large numbers.

An important percentage of Alberta's fish harvest is caught during the winter months.



A display of varieties of fox furs, one of the many types of pelts from Alberta traplines.



The search for Alberta's "black gold" is continuous, as oil companies drill the equivalent of 2,000 miles annually in development and exploration wells.

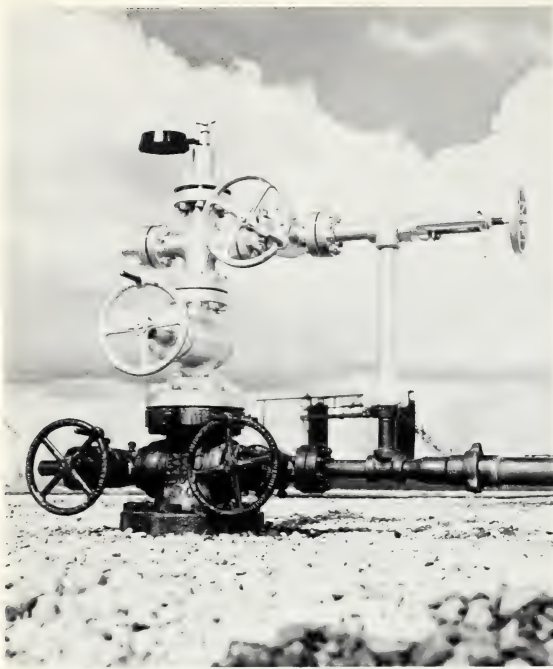


New processing plants, such as this one at Rimbey, have contributed greatly to the dramatic increase in the production, sale and distribution of natural gas over the past few years.

OIL & GAS

Alberta's greatest wealth lies in her abundant supply of energy resources. In the form of fossil fuels, these include almost 80 percent of Canada's total reserves of natural gas and natural gas liquids and nearly 90 per cent of the country's petroleum resources.

The first commercial exploitation of what has developed into a multi-million dollar industry was in 1886, when John "Kootenai" Brown collected oil seepage from Waterton Lakes area and sold it as machinery grease at \$1 a gallon. In 1890, gas came to Medicine Hat, which was described by Rudyard Kipling as "The city with all Hell for a basement", from the gas fields lying under the community. However, provincial development of oil and gas resources did not become a really serious business until 1914, the year of discovery of the Turner Valley oil field, and Alberta's first oil boom. Operations in this field reached their peak in 1942, then began to wane, and oil companies intensified their search for new sources of the black gold. Their explorations were rewarded in 1947 with the discovery of the famous Leduc field. Oil companies rushed into the area, and within a year, 43 major producers had been drilled. A year later, the Redwater field was discovered, with reserves estimated at 500,000,000 barrels. This was followed by discoveries at Golden Spike, Woodbend, throughout the Edmonton area, and more recently in the Swan Hills.



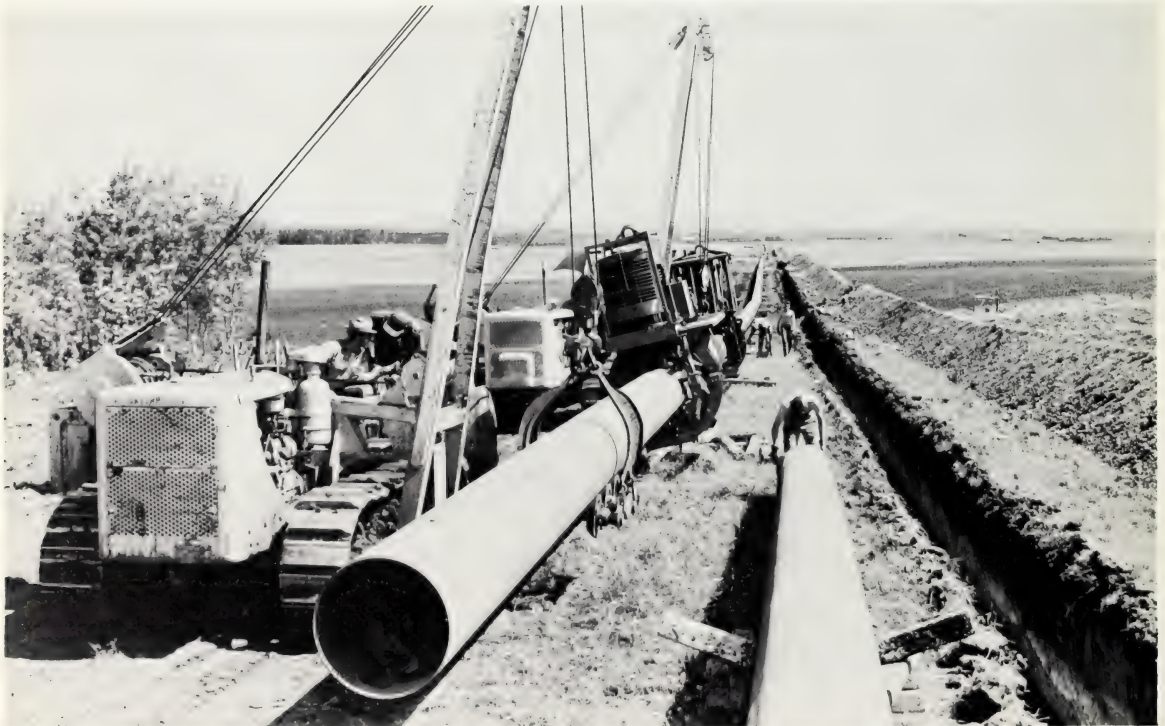
A concentration of pipes and valves controls the flow of natural gas from its source deep in the earth. Over one billion cubic feet of gas are produced annually from such wells.

Petroleum is the most important of Alberta's mineral resources, with reserves estimated at over three billion barrels. Actual daily production from the more than 11,000 producing oil wells is almost half a million barrels, while possible daily production exceeds a million barrels.

Increase in natural gas production over the past few years has been even more dramatic, more than tripling during the period from 1958 to 1962. Today, Alberta has almost 3,000 gas wells capable of production, producing close to one billion cubic feet of gas annually; and proven gas reserves of 33 trillion cubic feet indicate the province will be a major supplier for many years to come.

Activity in the production of oil and gas continues strongly, with oil companies drilling the equivalent of almost 2,000 miles annually in development and exploration wells. The cost of this activity totals over \$350 million each year.

Revenues from the development of oil and gas resources have enabled the Alberta government to raise the level of educational, health, cultural and recreational facilities and services in the province, and have assured a stable business climate and favorable prospects of attractive municipal property tax rates.



A network of pipelines, originating in Alberta, carry oil and gas as far east as Port Credit, Ontario, and as far west as Vancouver, British Columbia.



An indication of the magnitude of the petroleum industry in Alberta is "Refinery Row", just outside Edmonton, where three oil refineries, a tank farm, and a pipeline terminal are located almost side by side.

From Alberta's main producing areas, pipelines carry oil eastward to the prairies and central Canada, westward over the Rocky Mountains, and southeast and southwest to American markets. One of the longest oil pipelines in the world extends from Edmonton to Port Credit, Ontario, a distance of 1,750 miles, and has a throughput capacity of 350,000 barrels daily. The 711 mile pipeline from Edmonton to Vancouver is capable of transporting 250,000 barrels of Alberta crude daily to west coast markets.

To ensure the orderly development of provincial oil and gas resources, an Oil and Gas Conservation Board was established in 1938. Originally

conceived to eliminate the wasteful production practices which had been particularly apparent in the Turner Valley Field, the regulatory body had a backlog of practical experience in proration and conservation by the time Leduc and subsequent fields were in production.

The discovery and development of the enormous reserves of oil and gas in Alberta, and the resulting establishment of industries, has been the main factor in the rapid economic progress of the province since 1947. The increase in population stimulated construction, made possible many manufacturing industries related to serving the needs of consumers not connected with the oil industry, and generated the need for service industries.



It is estimated that 300 billion barrels of marketable crude oil are contained in the Athabasca oil sands. Found near the surface, the oil-bearing sands can be strip-mined, like a mineral.

OIL SANDS

The world's largest untapped source of crude oil is located in Alberta. This is the Athabasca oil sands deposit, a 20,700 square mile area some 400 miles north of Edmonton, believed to contain over 700 billion barrels of oil in place. Reserves are estimated to be in excess of 300 billion barrels of marketable crude oil which can actually be extracted from the sands.

This oil bearing sand is found near the surface and strip-mined like a mineral, but the problem of extraction long proved a stumbling block in actual production. The first shipment of oil recovered from the sands occurred in 1930, although the Alberta Research Council started investigating extraction methods ten years earlier. Over the years, many private companies, the Federal Mines Branch and the National Research Council, all attempted a variety of recovery processes, including a centrifugal

method, the use of ultrasonic waves, and the injection of hot air and natural gas. The use of high voltage electricity to heat the oil, and the detonation of a nuclear device below the sand have also been considered.

A large scale pilot plant was completed in 1959 at Mildred Lake, about 30 miles north of Fort McMurray, which used an elaboration of the hot water process developed by the Alberta Research Council in 1920. This was the most successful of all extraction plants to date.

Production of oil from the sand is now being developed on a commercial basis and Fort McMurray has become the centre of an industrial boom. Construction of the new plant, and of facilities to accommodate the influx of population has provided new employment for residents of the area, and once the plant is in operation, its payroll will maintain the increased economy of the community.

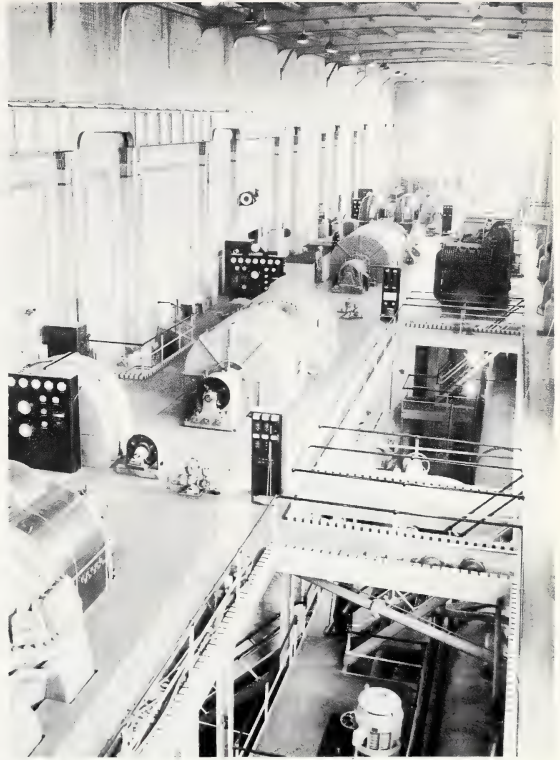
ELECTRICAL POWER

Electrical power in Alberta is developed from both hydro and thermal generating plants. In water power alone, provincial potential is estimated at more than 2,000,000 kilowatts, of which 475,000 kilowatts have been developed, less than 25 per cent of the total. The latest addition to Alberta's hydro plants is on the Brazeau River, where at least four units of 200,000 K.W. capacity will be in operation when the project is completed. Other sites await development on the Bow River, and the Athabasca, Slave and Peace Rivers have a great potential which has not yet been fully evaluated.

The province's huge reserves of natural gas have made this the most common fuel for thermal power plants, but coal is becoming more and more important in the generation of electricity. In many areas of Alberta, there are large seams of coal which can be readily strip-mined, and the large steam power stations of the future likely will be located in these areas. Because of the extremely low cost of power generated from coal, hydro plants are carrying the peak load, while thermal plants carry the base load.

At the end of 1964, the capacity of utility power plants in the province was 1,020,000 K.W., enough to light a city of 1,200,000 people. By December, 1968, the installed capacity is expected to be 1,941,000 K.W., enough for a city of 2,000,000. Three-quarters of the increased capacity will be in thermal plants with natural gas or coal as fuel, and the remainder in hydro plants.

An interconnected system of power plants and transmission lines joins all the major points in the province, with the grid of main high-voltage transmission lines totalling almost 15,500 miles. These



Thermal power plants, using natural gas or coal as fuel, carry the base load of electrical power in the province, while hydro plants carry the peak load.

lines are rapidly being extended to distant points, serving homes and industry in many areas. Rural electrification of Alberta is virtually complete, with better than 90 per cent of the occupied farms served by electrical power.

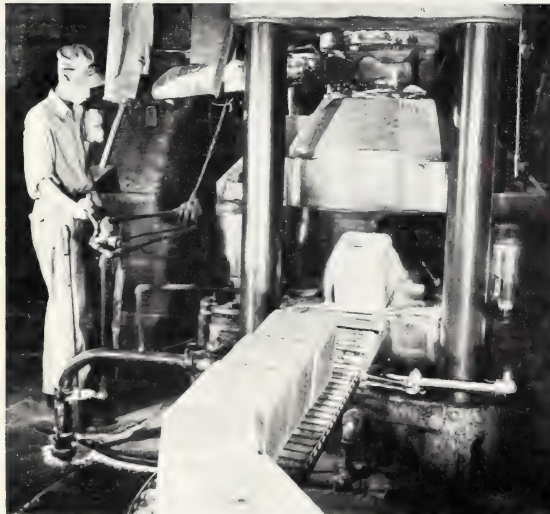


The Ghost River Dam is one of the power sites which produces the 475,000 kilowatts of hydro-generated electrical power which have been developed in Alberta. This is less than 25 per cent of the provincial potential, estimated at 2,000,000 kilowatts.

COAL & INDUSTRIAL MINERALS

Coal was the first of Alberta's natural resources to be developed, beginning in 1869 when a gold miner named Nicholas Sheran discovered a seam of coal near Fort Whoop-up. He immediately turned this into a profitable one-man industry. The demand for coal in the province rapidly increased from then until 1946, which was its peak year. The popularity of natural gas for industrial and domestic use, and the conversion of the railways from steam to diesel were mainly responsible for the decline of coal production after that year.

Total reserves of coal in Alberta are estimated at close to 50 billion tons, or roughly half of Canada's total. Sub-bituminous coals underlie most of the central plains while an abundance of bituminous and coking coal occurs in the Rocky Mountains and foothills areas. A rough classification shows bituminous deposits amounting to 59 per cent, sub-bituminous 23 per cent, and lignite or domestic, 18 per cent. The highest grades of coal are found in the foothills region of the Rockies.



Underground beds in central Alberta provide salt for chemical production, industrial uses and the familiar livestock salt block.

Coal production is once again on the upswing, largely due to increased use as a fuel in the production of electrical power. New methods of mining, new types of transportation, and investigation into the non-fuel uses of coal are expected to result in a greater need for, therefore greater production of, this valuable natural resource.

Industrial minerals are classed as mostly solid, non-metallic materials used in industries manufacturing such products as building materials, refractories, ceramics, paints, fertilizers and various inorganic chemicals. The rapid expansion of the petroleum industry in Alberta substantially increased the demand for industrial minerals and the value of these resources has grown in proportion.



This giant walking dragline at Wabamun strip mines coal for use as fuel in the Calgary Power generating plant. It is capable of taking 35-cubic-yard "bites" from the open pit mines.

One of the most important of Alberta-produced industrial minerals is sulphur, which is produced from hydrogen sulphide removed in the processing of sour natural gas. Approximately 70 per cent of Canada's total production of sulphur comes from Alberta, where recoverable reserves are estimated at 80 million long tons.

Salt is produced in Alberta for a wide variety of industrial uses, particularly in the chemical field. It is obtained from salt beds deep in the earth by pumping it to the surface in the form of brine. Extensive salt beds underlie a large portion of the central section of Alberta, enough for all foreseeable needs in the province.

Alberta clay and shale are used in the production of cement, brick, tile and pipe; and lime for many industries is produced from limestone deposits in the province. Silica sand for the manufacturing of glass, and bentonite, used in oil exploration, are also present in Alberta. Reserves of more than one billion tons of iron ore are located in the Peace River district.



Limestone from such plants as this installation at Exshaw is a requirement for many types of industry in the province, such as cement and lime production, fillers in asphalt, paint and rubber, and fertilizers.



Oil and timber companies all over the world use specialized transportation equipment manufactured in Alberta.



The Canadian Chemical Company establishment at Clover Bar, near Edmonton, is one of the 35 processing plants in Alberta engaged in the manufacturing of chemicals and allied products.

INDUSTRY

Alberta's history is largely agricultural, and the first industries to be established in the province were based on resources from farming and ranching. A woollen mill was established at Midnapore in 1883. In 1888, Alberta's first cheese factory began production in Springbank, and, two years later, the first meat packing plant opened in Calgary.

Today, manufacturing has replaced agriculture as the most important industry in the province. It is growing at the rate of \$50 million each year, and the value of shipments of manufactured products has reached a yearly total of more than one billion dollars.

Diversification has been the keynote of industrial expansion in the last twenty years, and Alberta now has more than 2,200 plants manufacturing a wide variety of products, from textiles to electrical

equipment; iron and steel products to pulp, paper and plywood; cement and clay products to transportation equipment.

The food and beverage industry continues to account for the largest percentage of manufactured shipments, although that percentage has been reduced from more than 50 per cent to approximately 35 per cent over the past few years. The processing of Alberta's livestock by meat packing plants is the most important part of the industry. Alberta produces approximately 30 per cent of Canada's red meat, with over 3 million cattle, 1.5 million hogs, and 450,000 sheep, in addition to 10 million poultry. Alberta is first in beef production, third in dairying, second in swine and third in poultry, amongst the provinces.

After meat packing, dairy processing is the next most important food and beverage industry, followed by flour milling and feed manufacturing. Fruit and



The food and beverage industry is the largest contributor to the value of Alberta's manufacturing shipments. The processing of frozen vegetables is expected to become an important aspect of this industry.

vegetable canning and processing are gaining new importance as the production of raw materials is increased, and the processing of oil seeds, though still an infant industry, holds great promise for the future.

The development of the petroleum industry was largely responsible for the greater variety of products manufactured in the province today. Not only did the production of petroleum contribute directly to the increase in allied industries, but it brought about a population increase which resulted in the establishment of many secondary and service industries. Petroleum product processing is the second most important industry in the province, with eight oil refineries utilizing the vast reserves of crude oil and natural gas to produce the major portion of western Canada's refined oil and gasoline.

The primary metal industries occupy third place in importance of Alberta's economic structure. Included in this group are metal rolling, casting and extruding plants; iron foundries, iron and steel mills, smelting and refining establishments, and steel pipe and tube mills.



The province-wide increase in construction and the expanding demands of the petroleum industry have resulted in a greater variety of metal products being manufactured in Alberta.

Thirty-five processing plants are engaged in the manufacture of chemicals and allied products, including sulphur, plastics, cellulose, asphalt building materials and fertilizer. At one time eighth in importance, this group is now fourth.

Non-metallic mineral products such as cement, lime and glass are next on the value scale, followed by the metal fabricating industry. The manufacturing of transportation equipment, furniture and fixtures, machinery, clothing, textiles, electrical products and leather all make important contributions to the total value of Alberta products.

The Research Council of Alberta is an important factor in the progress of the province's industry. Its development of a method of iron ore extraction with an acid leaching process, combined with the Peace River iron ore discovery, may lay the basis for a multi-million dollar steel industry in the area. Further research on the process is already being carried out by private industry in a multi-purpose pilot plant facility built for the Research Council near Edmonton.



Alberta's deposits of silica sand provide the raw materials for a variety of glass manufacturing, from vases and glass ornaments to commercial production of glass fibre.





Over 1,000 persons are employed by this Edmonton company, the largest manufacturer of work and casual clothing in the British Empire.



Curling sweaters, hockey sweaters, school sweaters and other fashion-knit sportswear is turned out by this knitting mill.



Calgary, Edmonton, points east and west of these cities, and the southern section of the province are served by two transcontinental rail lines. Service to the Peace River Country is provided by a third railway, and a fourth runs from Peace River into the Northwest Territories.

TRANSPORTATION

Travellers to, from and within Alberta can avail themselves of any modern means of transport. Bus, rail and airlines and an extensive network of roads connect even the smallest centres with larger cities and with areas outside the province.

Sixty-four hundred miles of main and secondary highways criss-cross the country, of which over 4,000 miles are paved, and 240 miles are four-lane super highways. Alberta provides the only all-paved route to the Alaska Highway. From east or south, all roads leading to mile "0" in Dawson Creek, just over the Alberta-B.C. border, are paved. Another route to

the north is the all-weather Mackenzie Highway, which cuts through the Peace River district and winds its way 400 miles to the Northwest Territories.

Most cities and many of the towns in Alberta are served by one of the three railroads which span the province. Two of these are transcontinental, with over 6,000 miles of track, serving the southern half of the province. The third railway connects Edmonton with the north-west section of Alberta. The newly constructed Great Slave Lake Railway, connecting Peace River with Great Slave Lake in the Northwest Territories, has opened great tracts of agricultural land and extensive mineral deposits in the far north.

Two major airlines and 33 other licensed air carriers provide excellent local and international service for both freight and passengers. Edmonton and Calgary International Airports are able to accommodate the largest aircraft in service now and in the foreseeable future.

Several bus companies maintain regular service to almost all communities, covering more than 5,000 bus-route miles.



Motorists journeying from Calgary to Edmonton travel most of the way on a divided, four-lane super highway.



The multi-million dollar air terminal building at Edmonton International Airport is designed to accommodate 1,200 travellers at one time, and provides the most modern and complete facilities and conveniences.

COMMUNICATIONS

Over the plains where once the smoke of Indian signal fires was the only method of long-range communication, now rise spindle-legged microwave towers capable of receiving and transmitting hundreds of telephone conversations and television network signals simultaneously.

This microwave system is operated by Alberta Government Telephones, a provincially owned company which is linked with the Trans-Canada Telephone System, and provides telephone service to the majority of the province, the exception being the city of Edmonton, which maintains a privately-owned system. The total number of telephone units in Alberta is now well over the half-million mark.

The province is well-served by news and entertainment media, newspapers, radio and television. There are seven daily papers with a combined circulation of close to 300,000; approximately one hundred weekly, English language newspapers; and a number of weekly foreign language and religious newspapers. The 21 radio stations in Alberta provide broadcast entertainment of all types, and include four F-M stations and one French language outlet. Eight television stations serve more than 314,000 TV homes in the province.

Communication links connecting Alberta with the world, microwave towers rise over the prairies and mountains, providing channels which carry numerous long distance telephone calls and television network signals simultaneously.



The Alberta Government Telephone System provides service to almost all the province, with the exception of the City of Edmonton which maintains its own private system.

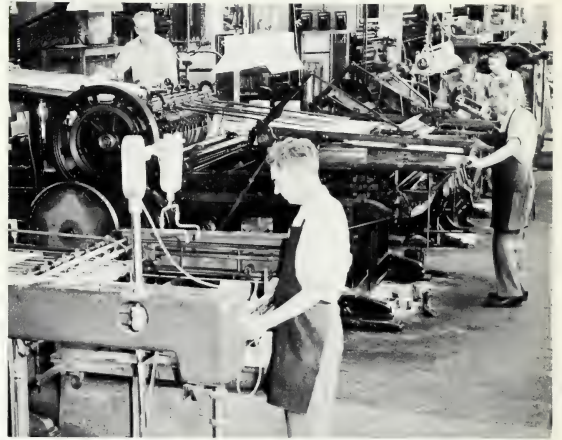


THE PEOPLE

The major expansion of Alberta's population began in the late 1880's with the rush for homesteads, an influx which reached its peak ten years later. Thousands of farmers from eastern Canada, the United States and Europe arrived to carve out a life in this new land. This surge of immigration continues even now, and Alberta has the highest rated population increase of any Canadian province. Homesteaders still constitute a sizeable portion of the newcomers, although the majority seek occupations and homes in the cities.

Alberta is home to approximately 1.5 million people, about 60 per cent of whom live in cities, towns and villages with populations of 1,000 or more, the remainder in smaller communities and on farms. The average population density is 5.5 persons to the square mile with the most densely populated regions around Calgary, Edmonton and Red Deer, and the least density of population in the areas north of Peace River.

Residential areas in Alberta communities are generally composed of attractive, modern homes with well-kept grounds. The majority of the residents of the province own their own homes.



Albertans at work enjoy above-standard working conditions. Legislation of working hours, wages, and holidays, and one of the most modern workmen's compensation plans in operation today add to the advantages of life in the province.



Most communities in Alberta are served by well-stocked stores and supermarkets, displaying a complete selection of foodstuffs . . .



and by department and specialty stores which offer a full variety of family needs, from clothing to hardware, cosmetics to footwear.

The latest available figures on racial origin of Albertans show that 45 per cent of the population is of British Isles origin; 13.8 per cent German; 8 per cent Ukrainian; 7.2 per cent Scandinavian, and 6.2 per cent French. Indians make up 2.1 per cent and other national origins the remainder.

In spite of industrial advances in the province, farmers and farm workers still make up the largest single occupational group. This is followed by those employed in production and processing and craftsmen, then come the service and recreational groups, clerical, managerial personnel, transportation and communications workers, professional and technical people, salesmen and laborers.

Alberta's rapid economic development is characterized by high income levels and low rates of unemployment. Personal income has risen steadily over the years, and is reflected in the increase in residential construction. Of Alberta's approximately 350,000 families, close to 250,000 own their own homes, more than double the number who rent.

An added dimension to shopping convenience is being developed in the suburbs of the larger areas, as new shopping centres open to serve outlying residential developments with family needs. These decentralized retail areas plus the familiar and well-established downtown shopping facilities contribute to the per capita retail sales figure for Alberta, which is well above the national average.



The high standard of living prevalent in the province contributes to pleasant, comfortable family life, in the city . . .



and on the farm, where the family enjoys all the advantages of city life, plus such bonuses as pony and horseback riding.

EDUCATION

The Alberta Educational System is progressive, geared to modern problems and requirements, from the elementary grades through to high schools and advanced education. Secondary education leading to qualification for university entrance is within easy reach of all and without cost to the pupil.

For those students who wish to pursue a career in farming or related occupations, home economics, or horticulture, the government maintains Agricultural and Vocational Colleges at Olds, Vermilion and Fairview.



A central school system provides all children in Alberta with the opportunity to gain their elementary and high school education in modern, well-equipped institutions.



The University of Alberta maintains two campuses, in Edmonton (above) and Calgary. A full range of academic study is offered in sixteen different faculties and schools.

The Southern Alberta Institute of Technology in Calgary (below), and Edmonton's Northern Alberta Institute of Technology offer a wide selection of technical courses, with emphasis on apprenticeship training for skilled trades.



Alberta Institutes of Technology, located in Edmonton and Calgary, provide courses of instruction designed to teach today those occupations which will be most required by industry tomorrow. They provide the necessary theoretical knowledge and skills required for semi-professional positions as industrial technicians.

The University of Alberta, at Edmonton and Calgary, provides a modern program of higher education for some 16,000 students. A provincial government subsidy allows students to pay only one-fifth of the money required for their education. Aid to university students is offered through the Queen Elizabeth Scholarship fund, making available more than \$1,000,000 to be distributed as scholarships, grants, tuition grants and fellowships.

The centralization of education enables the province to provide its growing population with the best in instructional facilities. Each day more than 2,000 school buses carry 67,000 pupils to more than 8,000 classrooms, to take them another mile along the road to higher learning.



All denominations of the Christian faith, and most other faiths as well, are represented in Alberta communities. Their churches are often the centre of social as well as religious activity.

RELIGION

Religion played an important part in the settlement of the early west. First, missionaries from a variety of faiths brought the first touch of civilization to this wild land. They were followed by pioneers who were attracted to areas populated by those of their own religion. Roman Catholics, Greek Orthodox, Anglican, Baptist, Presbyterian, Mormon, and many others were welcome in this new country, and all contributed to the growth of Alberta.

The variety of religions in the province today is even greater than it was a few decades ago. The largest majority of Albertans attend the United, Roman Catholic and Anglican Churches; with Lutheran, Presbyterian, Greek Orthodox and Baptist making up the next largest religious segments of the population. Also represented in the province are Mennonite, Mormon, and Pentecostal faiths, as well as non-Christian religions, such as Jewish and Muslim.

CULTURE

There is ample opportunity for Alberta residents to enjoy participation in or observation of a great variety of the arts. In such centres as the Jubilee Auditoria, twin structures located in Calgary and Edmonton, professional and amateur performers present opera, drama, revues, ballet and concerts, either in the 2,750 seat main auditorium, or in smaller rooms designed for intimate theatre.

Instruction in drama, music, visual arts, handicrafts, and many other aspects of the arts are presented in evening classes at many of the schools throughout the province, as well as the University. The School of Fine Arts, located in Banff, offers advanced education in drama, music, dancing, and other subjects.



Opera, ballet, concerts, variety revues and films are presented in magnificent surroundings at the two Alberta Jubilee Auditoria in Calgary and Edmonton.



One of the many fine courses which challenge the golfer in Alberta. Each town, city and vacation area in the province offers an opportunity to enjoy this popular sport.

RECREATION

Summer and winter, there's always a wide range of activities to enjoy in Alberta, where recreational facilities are as varied as the scenery. Sight-seeing is perhaps the most popular pastime of all, and the province offers a wide array of fascinating attractions, from the snow-capped grandeur of the Rockies, to the weird and wonderful formations of the Badlands, where the fossilized remains of tropical rain forests and great prehistoric reptiles may still be found.

Opportunities to stalk big game such as moose, caribou, elk, bighorn sheep, mountain goats, bear and antelope; excellent upland game bird and water-fowl hunting with pheasant, grouse, partridge, ducks and geese in abundance, draw many a hunter to Alberta.

In the cold waters of huge northern Alberta lakes, large fighting northern pike and lake trout, weighing up to 35 pounds, lurk ready to do battle with the fisherman. Pike, perch and pickerel are found in most Alberta lakes, while Dolly Varden trout, rainbow trout, cutthroat trout, salmon trout and grayling are plentiful in Rocky Mountain lakes and streams. Loch Leven trout, land-locked salmon and eastern brook trout have been introduced into these mountain waters and numerous prairie lakes have been stocked with trout.



A leisurely trail ride of a day, a week or longer provides the opportunity to view the beauty of Alberta's mountain fastness at close range.



Sailing on one of Alberta's many scenic lakes, where power boating, water skiing, swimming and fishing are also popular summer pastimes.

Every town and city in Alberta offers the golfer an opportunity to pursue his favorite pastime on a well-laid-out and well-maintained course. The province's vacation centres boast some of the world's finest links, such as those at Jasper Park Lodge, and the Banff Springs Hotel, which attract golfers from all over the world for their annual tournaments.

During the summer, the mountains offer the opportunity to enjoy some of the world's most magnificent scenery, on a trail ride which penetrates the secret fastness of the mountains, or on a hike along a well-marked mountain trail. The Rockies also offer challenging heights for those who prefer the more rugged sport of climbing. Winter in the mountains means skiing on some of the outstanding runs in Canada.

In mountain and parkland areas alike, the countryside is dotted with the blue of numerous lakes, many of which offer fine beaches and complete facilities for family fun. Swimming and boating are favorite summer pastimes at these resorts, along with picnicking and sunning on the warm sand.

Three of the five national parks located in Alberta are in the Rocky Mountain Region. Banff, Jasper and Waterton Lakes National Parks have become the province's best known scenic attractions. Waterton Lakes National Park is Canada's portion of the International Peace Park and is noted for its spectacularly hued mountains, charming lakes and excellent fishing. Banff and Jasper offer all conceivable types of recreation, and are linked by the famed Icefield Highway, which passes through some of the most majestic scenery in the Rocky Mountains, including the fabulous Columbia Ice Field where huge glaciers are visible from the highway.

Elk Island National Park, near Edmonton, boasts one of North America's few remaining buffalo herds. Wood Buffalo National Park is located in a generally inaccessible area bordering on the boundary of the Northwest Territories.



The winter wonderlands of Banff and Jasper National Parks offer perfect conditions for winter sports, brilliant daily sunshine, moderate climate and long slopes covered with deep powder snow.



Alberta is a hunter's paradise, where he may bag a caribou or moose, pheasant or partridge, ducks or geese, during the fall hunting season.



Every type of fishing is offered the angler in Alberta from leisurely trolling at such beauty spots as Lac Beauvert, near Jasper, to fly casting for the wily trout in deep mountain streams, and battling the big ones in the huge northern lakes.



A skier soars above the peak of Mount Rundle, at Banff, one of the most breath-takingly beautiful sights in this province of scenic beauty.



Paved highways lead the traveller through a variety of pleasant landscapes, from the prairies of the south to the rolling beauty of the Peace River Country.

Thirty-seven provincial parks are also found throughout Alberta, nearly all located on the shores of lakes suitable for boating, water skiing and swimming; and roadside campsites, equipped with shelter, wood and stove, picnic benches, water wells and dry toilets, are provided along the highways. Parking space for tents or trailers is available in the more than 400 campsites already established.

Wildlife abounds in the province, especially in the National Parks, where all animals are protected by law, at all seasons. Motorists may catch a glimpse of bighorn sheep, moose or elk as they travel, or they may be approached on the highway by bear or deer.

Most communities in the province are well equipped for recreational purposes. A sports ground and swimming pool are an important part of summer fun in practically every town and city, while indoor and outdoor skating rinks and curling rinks allow the residents to enjoy their two favorite winter sports.

The major cities of Calgary and Edmonton provide an increasing variety of evening entertainment. In addition to fine restaurants and movie theatres, drama is presented by local and national companies; concerts and musical shows play to packed houses; and amateur and professional sports such as football, hockey and baseball draw large crowds.

Special events throughout the year include Calgary's world-famous Stampede; Edmonton's Klondike Days Celebration and Muk-Luk Mardi-Gras; as well as a variety of fairs, stampedes and exhibitions held annually in almost every city, town and village.



A trio of bears ambles across the highway in Banff National Park. In such protected areas, wild game is often encountered along the highways and byways.



The Medicine Hat Municipal Hospital, typical of the modern, efficient health care facilities available to all Albertans.

HEALTH SERVICES

The health of Albertans is carefully guarded through a comprehensive and modern system of health services. Throughout the province, fully-equipped and staffed hospitals offer complete facilities to residents who enjoy the convenience and economy of a contributory health program, with complete hospitalization costing the patient no more than \$2 per hospital day. In addition, there is a comprehensive medical plan, giving low cost prepaid coverage for medical care.

Many cost-free special services are available, with special clinics for arthritis, cancer, cerebral

palsy, tuberculosis and polio. Virtually the entire settled area of the province is now covered by Health Unit Service programs which include service to infants and pre-school children, school health programs, immunization and health education. There are 250 Public Health Nurses employed by official agencies such as the Municipal Nursing Service.

An Emergency Air Ambulance Service is provided, and every general hospital in the province maintains a poison treatment centre. A modern program of Mental Health Service is designed to improve patients to the extent that they are once again able to take their places in the community.



Infants and pre-school children are given medical care through Health Unit Service programs, which also include school health programs and health education.



In-home care is provided a Senior Citizen of Alberta by one of the 250 Public Health Nurses employed by such official agencies as the Municipal Nursing Service.



Senior Citizen Homes throughout Alberta provide first-class accommodation at a cost well within the pension income. Each is fully modern, with all conveniences and facilities for the comfort of the residents.

WELFARE

Alberta's welfare program is recognized for its progressiveness in the care and pensioning of handicapped residents. One of the most important of welfare responsibilities is assistance to Senior Citizens who have, over the years, contributed enormously to the growth and development of the prov-

ince. This assistance takes the form of a number of services, including pensions; social allowances designed to meet the basic needs of living; medical, dental and hospital care. In addition, resident opportunities are provided for at Senior Citizen Lodges located throughout Alberta. First class accommodation is available in modern, self-contained units and lodge-type dwellings at rates well within range of pension income.



Senior Citizen accommodation is available in lodge-type units or individual dwellings.

Alberta residents who are unable to accept employment, and those who cannot find work, are offered financial aid through Social Allowance, and Social Assistance, which provide the basic needs of daily life. At the same time, they are given the opportunity to obtain the necessary skills, education and medical attention that would give them the means to attain a more independent living.

Rehabilitation services are designed to allow persons who are disabled, physically or socially, to share the same opportunities and accept the same responsibilities as other members of the community.

Rehabilitation services provided by the Alberta Department of Welfare include speech therapy, conducted by workers especially trained in this field.



New group homes for children under government care, in Calgary and Edmonton, are designed to provide a more home-like atmosphere conducive to rehabilitation and acceptance of social responsibility.



Alberta's majestic Legislative Building is the centre of Alberta's government and a popular point of interest with travellers.



It is in this dignified atmosphere that the Legislative Assembly of Alberta carries on the business of provincial government.

GOVERNMENT

The first government formed in Alberta was called the day after inauguration in 1905 and consisted of a cabinet or council of five members. Later that year, an election was held, to fill the 25 seats in the Legislative Assembly. The form of government has not changed since that first election, but it has expanded to an Assembly of 63 members. The present Executive Council has 13 members drawn from the Legislative Assembly.

Now, as then, the formal head of the government in Alberta is the Lieutenant-Governor who is appointed by the Government of Canada to represent Her Majesty the Queen. Although he is part of the legislative and executive branches of the government, he takes no active part, but rather acts upon the advice of the Executive Council.

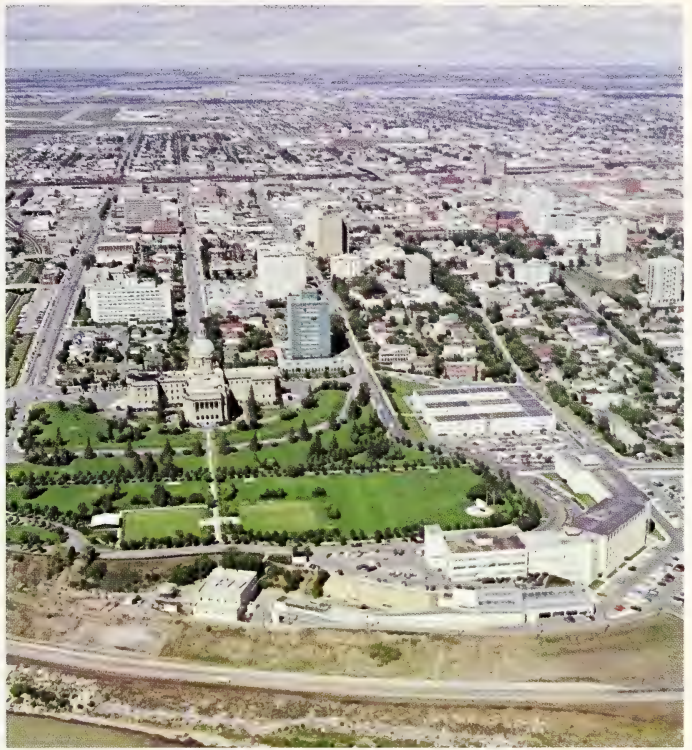
Active government is carried out by the Legislative Assembly which meets once yearly or more often as required, to consider the legislative program of the government. It is composed of 63 members, one from each constituency in the province. The elected Members of the Legislative Assembly represent the law-making branch of the government, and it is their duty to enact laws affecting public affairs, in accordance with the wishes of the public.

The executive, or law-administering branch of the government is composed of the Executive Council. This is headed by the Premier, who is generally the leader of the party which captured the majority of seats in the Legislative Assembly at the last election. He chooses from among the elected members of his party a small group of persons who are prepared to work harmoniously with him. These men become members of the Executive Council, assume

the title, "The Honorable", and are empowered by the Legislative Assembly to administer laws passed by the Assembly. Each member is known as a Minister, and usually heads a department of the government. A member who does not head a department is known as a Minister Without Portfolio.

The departments of government headed by the members of the Executive Council, or Ministers, are each responsible for a given sphere of administration, such as mines and minerals, highways, welfare, education, etc. Every department has a permanent staff of employees, the chief officer in each case being the deputy minister. Branches within each department are headed by directors, responsible to the deputy, and staffed by members of the civil service, who are permanent employees of the province, and retain their positions regardless of changes in government.

The Legislative Building is the centre of a complex of government buildings located on the site of old Fort Edmonton on the north shore of the North Saskatchewan River.



Permanent beauty is the keynote of design in the interior of the Legislative Building. Marbles from Quebec, Pennsylvania and Italy were used in the construction of the main rotunda, while Italian artisans were brought over solely for the purpose of laying the terrazzo floors.



The Great Slave Lake Railway runs from Peace River, Alberta, to Pine Point, in the Northwest Territories. Built to serve a lead-zinc ore mine at Pine Point, it is expected to spark development of the north Peace River country.

NORTHERN ALBERTA

Transportation is the key which will unlock the vast treasure-house of Canada's northland. Alberta is the centre of a transportation network which reaches out to rich new agricultural and mineral developments in the north. Paved Alberta highways give access to Mile "0" of the Alaska Highway, and join the all-weather MacKenzie Highway leading to the Northwest Territories. Road links are being constructed from Hay River to Yellowknife, and from Edmonton to Fort McMurray.

The newly constructed Great Slave Lake Railway, built at a cost of \$86 million, traverses the 400 miles from its start in the Peace River district to Pine Point in the Northwest Territories. The Northern Alberta Railway links Edmonton with Waterways, the southern terminus of an integrated water transportation system extending to the Arctic Ocean. With the routes which branch out of the three principal lakes in the northern section, Great Slave, Athabasca, and Great Bear, there are an estimated 2,700 miles of navigable water. Over 200,000 tons of freight are handled during the short June to September season.



Barges loaded with supplies and materials for northern outposts wait to begin their journey up the Athabasca River, to destinations as far north as the Arctic Ocean.

Development activities in the northern sections of the province itself are headed by the oil sands project at Fort McMurray. In addition, the discovery of substantial deposits of iron ore in the Peace River district promises to lead to the establishment of a primary steel industry in that area. Northern Alberta still offers an area of great possible value to the petroleum industry as well.



Strip mining ore near Hines Creek. This deposit promises to be the basis for a multi-million dollar steel industry in the Peace River area.



ALBERTA CREST

By Royal Warrant, dated 30th May, 1907, Armorial Ensigns were assigned to the Province of Alberta as follows:—

“Azure in front of a Range of Snow Mountains proper a Range of Hills Vert, in base a Wheat Field surmounted by a Prairie both also proper, on a Chief Argent a St. George’s Cross”, to be borne for the said Province on Seals, Shields, Banners, Flags, or otherwise according to the Laws of Arms.



FLORAL EMBLEM OF ALBERTA

The floral emblem of the Province of Alberta is the *Rosa acicularis*, popularly known as the “wild rose”. This flower is a common sight in Alberta, brightening fields and roadsides with its beautiful red petals.

The wild rose was chosen in The Floral Emblem Act of 1930.

THE PROVINCIAL MACE

The Provincial Mace is the traditional symbol of authority of the Legislative Assembly and is carried by the Sergeant-at-Arms into the Assembly at the opening of each daily sitting.

The design of the Alberta Mace is connected with the history and culture of the Province. At the top is a hand-carved figure of a beaver mounted on the traditional Crown representing the connection of the Province with the Crown and the Commonwealth. Engraved on the Crown are wild roses, the floral emblem of Alberta, and sheaves of wheat. Around the head band of the Crown are gems and semi-precious stones. The first letter of each of these gems — Amethyst, Lapis Lazuli, Beryl, Emerald, Ruby, Topaz, Aquamarine — combine to spell the word “Alberta”.

Below the Crown is a bowl with the coat-of-arms of Alberta in colored enamel. The shield is surrounded by more hand-carved wild roses and wheat sheaves. At the top of the bowl are the Royal coat-of-arms and the Canadian coat-of-arms and where the shaft begins are two hand-carved buffalo heads.



THE ALBERTA TARTAN

Designed by the Edmonton Rehabilitation Society for the Handicapped, the Alberta Tartan was given official recognition by Act of the Legislature assented to March 30th, 1961. The design is of two main blocks. One, of solid green, represents the forest wealth of Alberta. It is bordered by lines of black, symbolic of the province’s mineral resources of coal and petroleum.

The second block is emblematic of other attributes of the province, with a strip of rose, for the Wild Rose, Alberta’s official flower; a strip of blue for the province’s clear skies and sparkling lakes; and a strip of gold, for the treasure of the wheat fields.

Each of these strips, as well as the last two strips repeating the pink and blue colors, is separated by bands of black.





The
ALBERTA
Story

